

# Youth Speak Out on the State of San Francisco Schools



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**Presented by the City and County of San Francisco  
Youth Commission's Education Committee**

Commissioner Max Lantz, Convener, Education Committee

Commissioner Benjamin Lockett, Member, Education Committee

Commission Chair Myron Howard Johnson, Member, Education Committee

*This report was entirely created and designed by youth and for  
the people who care about our generation.*

June 2001

**5/S**



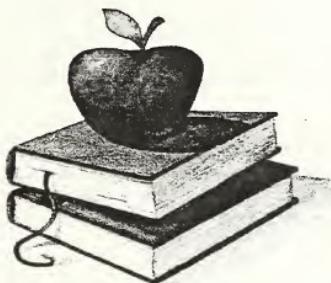
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**REFERENCE BOOK**

*Not to be taken from the Library*

*Huge Classes, Broken Textbooks,  
Old Computers...What Should Be Done?*



San Francisco Youth Commission  
Policy Recommendations  
Based on Youth Voices

3 1223 06194 7306

Youth Commission  
City Hall - Rm 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-0917



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[www.ci.sf.ca.us/youth\\_commission](http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/youth_commission)

Dear Friend,

The youth of San Francisco have spoken! The San Francisco Youth Commission has listened! Now the San Francisco Youth Commission has composed a report on what the youth of San Francisco think about their public school system. **Please take a few moments to read this report.**

The Youth Commission is a group of 17 appointed government officials that ensures government policies more accurately reflect the wants and needs of youth by including their input; and develops youth leadership in the political arena. The Youth Commission educates youth and adults and encourages youth to amplify their voices in legislative policy discussions affecting them. We do this by holding hearings, conferences, educational forums, lobby days and community meetings; meeting with public officials; inviting youth to partake in all of our endeavors. The Commission is composed of several committees and one of the committees is the Education Committee.

On January 31, 2001, at Mission High School's Little Theater, the San Francisco Youth Commission's Education Committee presented a youth forum on education: *"Huge Classes, Broken Textbooks, Old Computers... What Should Be Done?"* The enclosed report is based on the findings from this hearing and from our additional outreach to students in the San Francisco Unified School District.

The San Francisco Youth Commission, on behalf of the youth of San Francisco, would like you to take this report into consideration whenever making decisions affecting the public school system. Furthermore, the San Francisco Youth Commission would like to request a written response to whatever extent you feel appropriate. You may send your response by mail or via fax; our contact information is above. Feel free to call the Youth Commission at any time for more information about us.

Sincerely,

San Francisco Youth Commission Education Committee



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## **Table of Contents**

<b>Introduction.....</b>	2
<b>Youth Speak Out/Youth Commission Policy Recommendations</b>	
Uncomfortable Learning Environment.....	3
Inadequate Learning Materials.....	5
Unsafe Schools.....	6
Non-Nutritious School Food.....	7
Ineffective Curriculum.....	8
Poor Teaching Methods.....	10
<b>Closing.....</b>	11
<b>Appendices.....</b>	12
A. News Release Announcing Youth Forum	
B. Youth Forum Program	
C. San Francisco Examiner article	
D. Resolution Requesting Sanitary Conditions Within The SFUSD High School And Middle School Restrooms	



## **Introduction**

**On January 31, 2001**, at Mission High School's Little Theater, the San Francisco Youth Commission's Education Committee presented a youth forum on education: *"Huge Classes, Broken Textbooks, Old Computers...What Should Be Done?"*

**The Youth Commission** is a group of 17 appointed government officials that ensures government policies more accurately reflect the wants and needs of youth by including their input; and develops youth leadership in the political arena. The Youth Commission educates youth and adults and encourages youth to amplify their voices in legislative policy discussions affecting them. We do this by holding hearings, conferences, educational forums, lobby days and community meetings; meeting with public officials; inviting youth to partake in all of our endeavors. The Commission is composed of several committees and one of the committees is the Education Committee.

**Our Education Forum** was held to give youth in San Francisco an opportunity to voice their opinions on education issues that need to be implemented and/or altered in the San Francisco Unified School District. Youth from all over the City and County of San Francisco participated in our forum. Among the many students who were in attendance, there were students from the following schools: Mission High School, Lincoln High School, Leadership High School, Balboa High School, Galileo High School, Presidio Middle School, Aptos Middle School, Sanchez Elementary School, and various other schools, private and public. Since the hearing, the Education Committee has been involved in extensive outreach endeavors that include school presentations. At these school presentations, we gathered additional input for this report from students in the following schools: Thurgood Marshall High School and Visitacion Valley Middle School. The Education Committee plans on continuing our classroom/community center education outreach at the following locations: Sunset Beacon Center, A.P. Giannini Middle School, Walden House for Girls, Larkin Street Youth Center, Chinatown Beacon Center, and Benjamin Franklin Middle School.

**With the acquired information and concerns expressed by San Francisco's youth**, the Education Committee has decided to create a report and submit it to the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, City Departments, Board of Education and various youth programs in San Francisco. The purpose of our education forum was to hear young people's views on how the city should spend its money in the upcoming fiscal year budgets. As an upshot of the education forum and San Francisco Unified School District classroom presentations, the Education Committee has compiled a report with students' concerns and our specific recommendations to the city's policy makers on what needs to be done for youth. We are optimistic that these education recommendations will encourage effective change and positive dialogue in our communities, neighborhoods, and most importantly in our schools.

## **Uncomfortable Learning Environment**

The environment that a student learns in is vital and pertinent to the overall outcome of that student's scholastic achievement. The current learning environment at our schools is not providing the basic necessities of sanitary, pleasant and comfortable conditions. When a student walks into her school, she should immediately feel and see that she is in an environment that is conducive to learning. To ensure the latter, schools must focus on increasing air circulation, repairing dilapidated walls, and cleaning bathrooms. An uncomfortable learning environment may result in hostile and discouraged attitudes among students because their environment is not welcoming or pleasant. To make sure the school environment does not negatively affect a student's attitude to achieve academically, schools need to provide the basic necessities.

*"Kids come to school to rats, roaches, not given clean water, coming to school hungry.*

*How do you expect the kid to come and to learn, read, write, and be fully attentive?*

*If you want a kid to succeed, give them the right environment."*

*-Teacher at Sanchez Elementary School*

*"There is no heat, there's holes in the walls, the bathrooms have no mirrors, instead of a mirror, there is a metal steel that is all scratched up.*

*If we push on the walls, they fall through".*

*-Mission High School student*

*"The school buildings look like jails."*

*-Former SFUSD student*

### **Youth Speak Out:**

**There are significant structural problems with the SFUSD schools.**

- \*The ceilings are falling down with "rain coming through the cracks of the classroom".
- \*Much of the furniture is worn out, with "squeaky tables that shift a foot when you move them".

**School facilities are not clean.**

- \*The floors are too dusty.
- \*There are rats, rodents, and insects in the school.
- \*Conditions throughout the schools are unsanitary.

**There are problems with heating in school buildings.**

- \*Rooms are too hot when it is warm outside and too cold when it is cold outside.

**The buildings are not pleasant to look at.**

- \*The buildings do not have any individuality.
- \*The buildings should include murals and gardens created by students.

**The classrooms are overcrowded.**

**The most commonly expressed concern (by almost every student and teacher who we heard from) was the unsanitary bathroom conditions.**

- \*There is not enough toilet paper, paper towels, or soap.
- \*Many stalls are broken.
- \*The bathroom conditions are generally unsanitary; bathrooms are often littered with paper, bodily fluids, and blood.

**Youth Commission Policy Recommendations:**

- \*Repair walls and ceilings.
- \*Replace old furniture.
- \*Increase air circulation and better regulate heating.
- \*Repaint schools, decorate them with student murals (to display student artistic talent), and plant gardens in front of every school.
- \*Reduce class sizes.
- \*Keep bathroom supplies fully stocked.
- \*Increase janitorial staff.
- \*Follow the specific recommendations of the Student Advisory Council and the Youth Commission's Resolution Requesting Sanitary Conditions Within The SFUSD High School And Middle School Restrooms (See Resolution, Appendix D).

## Inadequate Learning Materials

Youth today are working with some of the worst materials. As I look at my textbook, the cover is damaged, some pages are ripped, plus the first person to use the book is from the class of '88. It makes you think nothing happened in the past 13 years. Students need good, updated textbooks, computers, etc. Without these items it makes it harder for youth to succeed in their education.

*"The library is rarely open. You have to go during school hours because it's closed before or after school. They hand out a limited amount of library tickets at lunch.*

*If you don't have a ticket, you're at a loss for learning."*  
*-Presidio Middle School students*

*"We get hand me down books from Lowell to Lincoln."*  
*-Lincoln High School student*

*"We have torn textbooks where you see no pages."*  
*-Mission High School student*

### Youth Speak Out:

#### **Resources are often inaccessible to students.**

- \*The library is not open long enough.
- \*There are not enough study halls after school.
- \*Students are not allowed to use copy machines.
- \*Many computer labs are inaccessible to students.

#### **There is a lack of necessary supplies for students.**

- \*The chalkboards are too old.
- \*There is often not enough paper.
- \*There are not enough computers for all students who need to use them.
- \*Students have to share books.

#### **The textbooks are in poor condition.**

- \*Students described books as "outdated", "very old", "too heavy", "soiled", "ripped", "water damaged", and "dirty"
- \*Students have "torn textbooks where you see no pages".

### Youth Commission Policy Recommendations:

- \*Keep libraries and computer labs open so students' minds can stay active.
- \*Put copy machines in the libraries and allow students to use them.
- \*Replace chalkboards with white/dry erase boards.
- \*Seek donations for schools.
- \*Increase teacher and student input in choosing textbooks.
- \*Replace textbooks often (within 5 years).
- \*Put textbooks online and increase internet access for students.

## **Unsafe Schools**

You walk down the halls of your school, you then hear someone say, "Hey, man you are acting like a faggot". Then you look at the teacher; he says nothing, continuing to talk to another teacher. You feel afraid to say something because you do not want to get picked on. You are also scared to tell the teacher because you feel that you would be a snitch to your peers. What do you do? This is an example of an unsafe environment for youth.

*"Words like gay, faggot, dike are so demeaning. We need to start questioning what we learn. It is the school's responsibility to make sure we are not just learning math and reading, but how to be a human being."*

*-Student Advisory Council member*

### **Youth Speak Out:**

#### **Students do not feel physically safe in their schools.**

- \*Students know of other students who bring guns or knives to school.
- \*Gangs or groups of people hanging out near schools often harass students.
- \*Police in school create a hostile environment.
- \*Buildings are structurally unsafe (See Uncomfortable Learning Environment Section of this report).

#### **Students do not feel safe to be themselves.**

- \*There are many instances of students not respecting each other in school, with racist, sexist, or homophobic remarks and actions.
- \*Female students expressed frustration with the way some male students disrespect them.
- \*Students are afraid to express opinions because some teachers and administrators do not respect their opinions.

### **Youth Commission Policy Recommendations:**

- \*Address the deep reasons why students bring weapons to schools, by having in class dialogues facilitated by students and teachers
- \*Take police officers out of disciplinary positions.
- \*Encourage better relations between students and security officers in the school. Include youth voices in the training of security officers.
- \*See recommendations in the Uncomfortable Learning Environment section of this report (regarding building safety).
- \*Have more parent involvement in schools.
- \*Make sure administrators and teachers support students' opinions, activities, and clubs that address identity issues (like multi-cultural, language, and LGBTQQ issues) so that students will not feel like there is a barrier between them and the administrators and teachers.
- \*Adapt a No Tolerance Policy for hate. As a consequence for racist, sexist, or homophobic remarks, have students take courses about diverse groups and/or write research reports about them.

## **Non-Nutritious School Food**

In a way, school meals are balanced. You have your meat, a rubber hamburger patty, your dairy, a bag of milk, your vegetables, one old piece of brown shredded lettuce (a.k.a. salad), and last, but not least, your grains: one soggy hamburger bun. This food is disgusting! Students' growing bodies need a healthy start! Yes, this meal, to a certain extent is balanced, but all too often, is so repulsive and distasteful, that students do not eat lunch at all. What is that doing to their growing bodies?

*"Homeless students go to school starving and then go home starving.  
School lunch is the only food we get the whole day. It needs to be healthy."  
-Former SFUSD student*

### **Youth Speak Out:**

**School lunches are not satisfying.**

\*Students described them as "oil-laden", "greasy", and "don't taste good".

**Students would like to eat healthier, but healthy food is not available.**

**There is not enough access to clean water.**

\*There are not enough water fountains.

\*The water fountains are locked at times.

\*The lead and bacterial content in the water is unsafe.

**Beaneries (food vendors) are not affordable to everyone.**

**The eating areas are unsanitary.**

### **Youth Commission Policy Recommendations:**

\*Develop an onsite wellness center that is involved in meal planning.

\*Involve students in planning and preparing meals.

\*Include healthy options for students, like a salad bar, juices, and fruit.

\*Unlock all water fountains.

\*Replace and clean water pipes.

\*Increase contact with nutritionists.

\*Have free water dispensers.

\*See recommendations in the Uncomfortable Learning Environment section of this report (regarding sanitary conditions).

## Ineffective Curriculum

Knowledge is power. We feel that a school's curriculum is the foundation of knowledge. Knowledge is found in mathematic textbooks, cultural field trips, student leadership, athletic events, computer research, etc... Curriculum is meant to expose students to issues, ideas, and perspectives that they are not yet aware of or comfortable with. Curriculum is where knowledge is stimulated and manifested into a student's desire and determination to be curious and inspired to learn. With a robust curriculum that incorporates all voices and is interactive, students will have the knowledge to affect powerful and positive change in the future.

*"The big issue is that students are not interested in the curriculum.*

*Teachers have to make it more interactive and interesting because kids are not going to school  
and because ultimately it will affect them."*

*-Galileo High School student*

*"Not his-story, but your story empowers you.*

*Why wait until college to become more empowered?*

*-San Francisco City College student*

### Youth Speak Out:

#### **The curriculum is not interactive enough.**

- \*Too many teachers teach straight from the textbooks.
- \*The focus on standardized tests takes away from the important teaching of critical thinking and life skills.
- \*The curriculum needs to be more culturally tuned. It does not include non-traditional methods like oral history or poetry.

#### **The curriculum does not include all voices.**

- \*Not enough people know about historical leaders from different cultures, oppressed people who have made changes in society.
- \*Students are tired of learning about the same historic leaders. They want to hear about up and coming leaders of today who they can identify with.
- \*LGBTQQ issues are not represented in the curriculum.
- \*Students of color are not being taught about their historical and cultural heritage.

### Youth Commission Policy Recommendations:

- \*Include youth input in what they learn.
- \*Make sure curriculum reaches different types of learners.
- \*Add visuals in the classroom (like paintings, movies, photos).
- \*Provide opportunities for students to take more field trips (to Martin Luther King or Cesar Chavez sites, for example). Field trips are a great way to learn about the community by getting outside of the classroom.
- \*Expose students to more spoken word events.

- \*Teach life skills to students (business, stock market, basic job and presentation skills).
- \*Have career days.
- \*Invite youth and youth organizations to present to classes.
- \*Support students in community service endeavors.
- \*Make sure that teachers include all under represented voices in the curriculum.

## **Poor Teaching Methods**

Effective teaching methods make students want to learn. When teachers use word searches and crossword puzzles regularly in their curriculum, the students are not learning! When it comes to supporting effective teaching methods, the district leaves teachers in the dark. The curriculum is only as effective as the way it is taught!

*"Teachers should take child development training. Teachers need training in adultism and shouldn't fall into society's mainstream view of young people."*  
*-Former SFUSD student*

*-I want to become a teacher because I have had a lot of bad teachers.  
We need teachers of color for students of color.  
SFUSD is very multi-racial and teacher:student ratio needs to be as well."*  
*-Former SFUSD student*

*"I've had teachers use crossword puzzles as science curriculum."*  
*-SFUSD student*

### **Youth Speak Out:**

#### **Classes are too large.**

\*The student/teacher ratio is so big that teachers can not control the classroom and then have to act as disciplinarians.

#### **Teachers are unprepared and under resourced.**

\*There are too many "emergency teachers" in SFUSD who are not certified.  
\*For many teachers, English is their second language and there are communication problems in the classroom.

#### **There is no student input in teachers' policies.**

#### **Teachers' methods are not interactive.**

### **Youth Commission Policy Recommendations:**

- \*Require teachers to consult with students to gain their input.
- \*Allow students to evaluate their teachers.
- \*Create a Student Advisory Board for teachers.
- \*Further support the already existing Student Advisory Council.
- \*Require teachers to take a course in youth empowerment.
- \*Give teachers more support, like workshops and staff development throughout the summer.
- \*Offer more trainings for teachers on how to make learning more interesting.
- \*Employ more teachers of color.
- \*See recommendations in Ineffective Curriculum section of this report (regarding interactive curriculum).

## **Closing**

The Education Committee would like to thank those who participated on the forum panel and all who contributed to the report: President of Board of Education Jill Wynns, Board of Education Commissioner Eric Mar, Board of Education Commissioner Mark Sanchez, Board of Education Commissioner Mary Hernandez, Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, Presidents of Student Advisory Council Babe Kawaii-Bouge and Greg Zhoverehoff, Mission High School Faculty, Sharon Solomon, San Francisco Youth Commission's Youth Empowerment Coordinators Nicole Derse and N'Tanya Lee, Commissioner Mari Villaluna, Commissioner Michael Geodzhayev, San Francisco Youth Commission's Youth Policy and Program Coordinator Ron McCan, San Francisco Youth Commission Director Colleen Montoya, and to the youth of San Francisco.

Youth Commission  
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1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
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January 29, 2001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**San Francisco Youth Speak Out on Education and Public Schools:  
The San Francisco Youth Commission Holds Education Forum**

On Wednesday January 31, 2001, from 5-7pm. The San Francisco Youth Commission will be holding a public forum at Mission High School (18<sup>th</sup> Street between Dolores and Church Streets). Youth and youth advocates will speak out to public officials on education and the state of San Francisco's public schools.

Members of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors: Sophie Maxwell, Matt Gonzalez, Mark Leno, and a representative from Board President Tom Ammiano's office will be in attendance. Also in attendance will be President of the Board of Education, Jill Wynn.

The San Francisco Youth Commission is a city commission created to represent youth in San Francisco. The Commission is made up of 17 youth between the ages of 12 and 23 appointed by the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor. To find out more about the San Francisco Youth Commission or Wednesday's Education Forum, call (415) 554-6446 or visit our website at [www.ci.sf.ca.us/youth\\_commission](http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/youth_commission).

**THE SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH COMMISSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
PRESENTS**

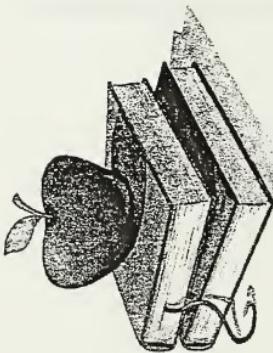
The San Francisco Youth Commission Presents

# **SPROUT YOUR MIND SERIES!!**

A series of town hall meetings to inform the Youth Commission, the Mayor, The Board of Supervisors, the Board of Education and City Departments what's on the mind of youth and where YOU want to see the city spend its money this year.

## **Old Computers...What Should be Done?**

Huge Classes, Broken Textbooks,



### **What is a town hall meeting?**

A town hall meeting is a chance for the public to come together and raise their opinions about a certain topic or a range of topics. Compared to a hearing, a town hall meeting is more informal and relaxed.

### **Who is putting together these meetings?**

the San Francisco Youth Commission is a group of 17 youth ranging in age from 12-23. Youth Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor and Board of Supervisors. The Youth Commission's different Committees are in charge of their specific events to better and more thoroughly address the issues.

### **Why is the San Francisco Youth Commission having a series of these town hall meetings?**

The San Francisco Youth Commission is having a series of citywide town hall meetings on the problems and issues facing youth. These town hall meetings will give youth an opportunity to voice their opinion on a range of different topics in an environment that is comforting and welcoming. The Commission especially wants to hear young people's views on how the city should spend its money in next year's budget.

### **Where is all the information going to go?**

Each Committee of the Youth Commission will create a report and submit it to the Mayor, Board of Supervisors, City Departments, the Board of Education and various youth programs in the city. Based on what young people have to say, The Youth Commission will make specific recommendations to the city's policy makers on what should be done for youth, and will advocate to get those recommendations accepted.

## **A YOUTH FORUM ON EDUCATION**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2001**

**5-7:00PM**

**MISSION HIGH SCHOOL  
LITTLE THEATRE**

## San Francisco Youth Take Charge

Welcome

*Myron Howard-Johnson  
Chair*

*San Francisco Youth Commission*

Tanere Allison  
Jesse Arenguin-Fernandez  
Rolando Bonilla

*Max Lantz*

William Fosselman  
Michael Gerasimov

*Myron Howard-Johnson  
Max Lantz*

Benjamin Lockett  
Maria Martin

*Tom Ammiano  
President, Board of Supervisors*

Benjamin Matranga  
Jessica Mekarwan

*Supervisors Matt Gonzales, Mark Leno, Sophie Maxwell*

Automedis S. Smith  
Anthony E. Valdez

*Jill Wigns  
President, Board of Education*

Gertie R. Verdad  
Marissa R. Villaluna

*Greg Zvobroff  
President, Student Advisory Council*

Keri Painter  
City Hall Building Manager

*Youth Speak Out*

*Closing Remarks*



The San Francisco Youth Commission

City Hall ~ Room 345

The Education Committee would like to thank

*Benjamin Lockett  
Education Committee  
San Francisco Youth Commission*

*Ntanya Lee, Ron McCan, Colleen Montoya, Sharon Solomon  
and Mission High School*

# Students dish dirt on city schools

*'High schools aren't livable'*

## Pest and heating woes

Skimpy arts budgets and bland food on kids' minds

By JAMIE CASINI  
Of The Examiner Staff

Frigid temperatures, rats slithering across the floor, bland food with strands of oil floating on top. A prison? Try the inside of a San Francisco high school. In fact, many of the city's public school students say that prisons are world-class compared to their respective schools.

At a youth forum on education last week, dozens of middle school and high school students gathered to voice their concerns about the curriculum, deteriorating building conditions and over-crowded classrooms.

"We need to find some way to keep up our health when our own high schools aren't livable," said Mari Villaluna, youth commissioner.

### Maintenance challenge

Because many city schools are older and housed on large campuses, efforts to maintain them is a challenge for the district. Superintendent Arlene Ackerman and new school board members say that fixing the pest and heating problems are high priorities.

Commissioner Eric Mar said hearing the students speak was a valuable experience. "I know that the conditions are poor at many of the schools, and I understand their concerns," he said. "I intend to go to some of the cafeterias and see how bad the food is, and I would encourage others to do the same. It's crucial that the students stay organized and hold the school board and the district accountable."

Some teens said they are frustrated about being forced to read torn and graffiti-filled books, having to use old computers, and trying to get through a class with a dearth of supplies. One girl said her teacher is only given a \$500 budget to buy art supplies for the whole department. "Clay is very expensive so my teacher has to use her own money to pay for it," said the student.

While the teens said they would appreciate a more suitable learning environment, some also spoke about the need for changes in a curriculum that some called "flat, dry and one that doesn't motivate

Please see SCHOOLS, A7

# Students dish dirt

Continued from SCHOOLS, A1  
students."

A Galileo High student said she would like to see a better interactive curriculum. Many others said they would enjoy getting out of the classroom more by going on field trips and experiencing education in different settings.

Villaluna suggested that an ethnic studies class be implemented into the high schools. "When we hear about his story, and her story and everyone's story, we will all be more empowered," Villaluna said.

Greg Zhovreboff, a student delegate to the school board, voiced a need for a minorities' studies class that would focus on gay, lesbian and transgender issues.

Commissioner Mary Hernandez reminded the group that the board makes the policies, but the administrators are charged with carrying them out. Because board members cannot be in every classroom in the city, Hernandez said they need "an army of students and parents to tell them what's going on. You need to be our eyes and ears to make sure policies are being implemented."

While many youths were forceful in expressing their thoughts, ideas and solutions to the pressing problems affecting their education, one teen said that their words were futile attempts to change a failing system. Peccola Manigo, 18, told students to write their opinions down, learn the system and change it themselves.

Although it will take time before change occurs, many suggestions were made that may get the ball rolling.

Students said they would like to see more money spent on schools so that campuses could have more gardens and murals. They asked for more after school programs, better-qualified teachers and additional funding for art and music.

Supervisor Sophie Maxwell applauded the students' efforts at bringing about action. "It's about fixing up a building, that's doable," she said. "If it's about changing the food, it's doable. We cannot use money as an excuse. We have the money, but it's the way we adults allocate it. We owe it to ourselves and each other to be accountable."

San Francisco Youth Commission  
FILE NO. City Hall - Room 345  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4532

RESOLUTION NO. 00-12

[Requesting sanitary restroom conditions within the San Francisco unified School District]

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING SANITARY CONDITIONS WITHIN THE SFUSD HIGH SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL RESTROOMS.**

WHEREAS, The restrooms in the San Francisco Unified School District's (Here on referred to as "SFUSD") high schools and middle schools have required improvements since their construction; and

WHEREAS, On February 12, 2001, the SFUSD Student Advisory Council voted unanimously to make a formal request of the San Francisco Board of Education (here on referred to as "School Board") to make such improvements; and,

WHEREAS, A number of students do not use school restroom facilities because of their poor conditions; and,

WHEREAS, Such unsanitary conditions have the potential to spread many illnesses among the students in our schools; and,

WHEREAS, At a hearing held by the San Francisco Youth Commission on January 31, 2001, numerous students spoke about the unsanitary conditions in their public high schools and middle schools; and,

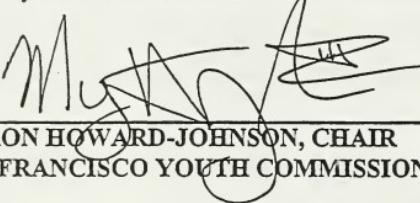
WHEREAS; The San Francisco Youth Commission considers the well being of students a priority, and places the improvement of SFUSD restroom facilities a top priority, then, be it

Commissioner Lantz & the San Francisco Youth Commission  
Author: Babe Kawaii-Bouge and Greg Zhoovereoff

1           RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission declares it's support for  
2 implementing a course of action to improve the unsanitary conditions of the restrooms in  
3 SFUSD high schools and middle schools; and, be it

4           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the School  
5 Board to urge the appropriate SFUSD resources to implement and maintain sanitary restroom  
6 conditions, including, but not limited to: running hot water, toilet seat covers, deodorizing units,  
7 clean and sanitary floors, a necessary amount of hand soap, paper towels, and toilet paper in our  
8 public high school and middle school restrooms before next year; and, be it

9           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Superintendent of Schools is hereby urged to notify  
10 necessary school site staff of this resolution.

11             
12           28 MARCH 2001  
13           MYRON HOWARD-JOHNSON, CHAIR  
14           SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH COMMISSION

15           DATE

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Commissioner Lantz & the San Francisco Youth Commission  
Author: Babe Kawaii-Bouge and Greg Zhovereoff



## 2000 / 2001 Youth Commissioners

Tanene Allison  
Jesse Arreguin-Fernandez  
Kamel Jacot-Bell  
Rolando Bonilla  
William Fosselman  
Michael Geodzhayev  
Myron Howard-Johnson  
Max Lantz  
Benjamin Lockett  
Maria Martin  
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